

What Is Claimed Is:

1. An impact sensor having a sensor element (1, 20) and a filter (5, 23) for a first signal of the sensor element (1, 20), the impact sensor being configured for a self-test,  
wherein the impact sensor is configured in such a way that the impact sensor carries out a filter correction dependent on a response signal of the filter (5, 23) to a test signal.
2. The impact sensor as recited in Claim 1,  
wherein the filter correction is realized as a software filter.
3. The impact sensor as recited in Claim 1,  
wherein the filter correction is realized as a parametrization of a triggering algorithm for restraint means.
4. A method for testing an impact sensor,  
wherein a filter (5, 23) of the impact sensor that is used for the filtering of a first signal of a sensor element (1, 20) is supplied with a test signal, and a response signal of the filter thereto is used for a filter correction.
5. The method as recited in Claim 4,  
wherein the filter correction is achieved using a software filter, the software filter being connected subsequent to the filter (5, 23).
6. The method as recited in Claim 4,  
wherein the filter correction is achieved through a parametrization of a triggering algorithm for restraint means.
7. The method as recited in Claim 5,  
wherein the software filter is used by the impact sensor or by a control device.
8. The method as recited in one of Claims 4 through 7,  
wherein the filter correction is carried out after a reset of the impact sensor.

9. The method as recited in one of Claims 4 through 8, wherein a second signal is produced dependent on an evaluation of successive filter corrections.

10. The method as recited in one of Claims 4 through 9, wherein a step function is used as a test signal.